

Summary of Precautions Used to Prevent Transmission of Infection

When a patient is suspected of having a communicable disease (transmittable from person to person), appropriate precautions should be taken to prevent transmission. The type of precautions must be based on how the disease is spread: via direct contact, droplets (respiratory secretions), or the airborne route of transmission. These precautions apply to situations of risk of infection transmission and settings and circumstances where healthcare is provided. **Hand hygiene is crucial at all levels of infection control.**

Standard Precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand hygiene • Gloves • Gown, surgical mask, and goggles or eye splash shield (when contact with infected body fluids may occur) 	<p>To be used at all times.</p> <p>Applies to all healthcare settings and patient care circumstances. Based on the premise that any patient may have an infectious disease.</p>
Contact Precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand hygiene • Gloves • Gown • Place patient in private room • Limit patient movement • Disinfect patient care equipment after use 	<p>To be used when in the presence of patients known or suspected to have an infection that can be spread by contact with the infected person or surfaces or patient care items in the room.</p> <p>Examples of infections requiring CONTACT PRECAUTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staphylococcal skin and soft-tissue infections (including MRSA) • • Scabies • Herpes Simplex •
Droplet Precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand hygiene • Gloves • Surgical mask • Place patient in private room • Gown and goggles or eye splash shield as needed • Limit patient movement • Disinfect patient care equipment after use 	<p>To be used when in the presence of patients known or suspected to have an infection transmitted by large particle droplets.</p> <p>Examples of infections requiring DROPLET PRECAUTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influenza • Mumps • Diphtheria • Pertussis • Pneumonic plague • • Streptococcal (Group A) pharyngitis • Adenovirus • Parvovirus • • Invasive <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (HiB) disease • Rubella • • Invasive <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> disease •
Airborne Infection Isolation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand hygiene • Gloves • N95 respirator, fit-tested, or higher level respiratory protection as needed • Place patient in negative pressure room • Gown and goggles or eye splash shield as needed • Limit patient movement • Disinfect patient care equipment after use 	<p>To be used when in the presence of patients known or suspected to have an infection transmitted by airborne small droplet nuclei.</p> <p>Examples of infections requiring AIRBORNE INFECTION ISOLATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measles • Tuberculosis • SARS • Smallpox •